Worcestershire

q1 2012 business confidence report



headlines

- Q1 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Worcestershire when compared to any previous Q1.
- Q1 2012 was a record quarter for company registrations in Worcestershire when compared to any quarter in history.
- February 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Worcestershire when compared to any previous February.
- February 2012 saw a new record in net growth in Worcestershire when compared to any previous February.

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Q1 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Worcestershire when compared to any previous Q1.

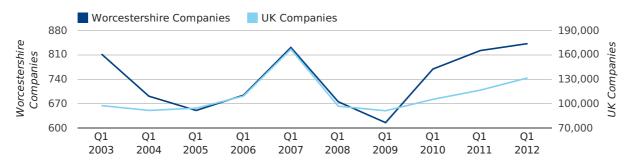
Q1 2012 was a record quarter for company registrations in Worcestershire when compared to any quarter in history.

A total of 842 companies were registered in Worcestershire during the first quarter of 2012 (Jan 2012 - Mar 2012).

This figure is an increase of 2.4% versus the same period last year (Q1 2011). This figure compares badly to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 13.0% against the same period last year.

FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2012 - MAR 2012)	WORCESTERSHIRE	UK
2012	842	131,491
2011	822	116,391
% CHANGE	2.4%	13.0%
RECORD YEAR	2012 (842)	2007 (166,814)

new companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)

February 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Worcestershire when compared to any previous February.

2011 (282)

new companies by month

RECORD YEAR



2012 (319)

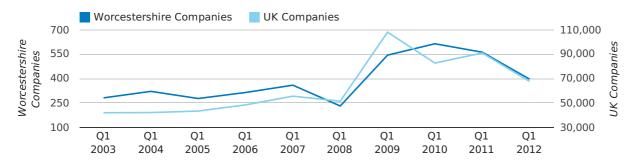
2007 (341)

A total of 396 companies were dissolved in Worcestershire during the first quarter of 2012 (Jan 2012 - Mar 2012).

This figure is a decrease of 29.5% versus the same period last year (Q1 2011). This figure compares well to the UK as a whole, which saw a decrease of 25.7% against the same period last year.

FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2012 - MAR 2012)	WORCESTERSHIRE	UK
2012	396	67,576
2011	562	90,986
% CHANGE	-29.5%	-25.7%
RECORD YEAR	2010 (614)	2009 (108,060)

dissolved companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)

dissolved companies by month



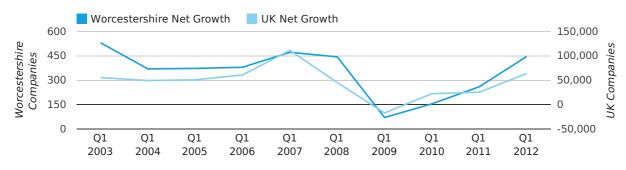
	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2012	147	113	136
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011	235	155	172
% CHANGE	-37.4%	-27.1%	-21%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (235)	2010 (206)	2009 (284)

Net company growth for Worcestershire during the first quarter of 2012 (Jan 2012 - Mar 2012) was 446 companies.

This represents an increase of 71.5% on the same period last year.

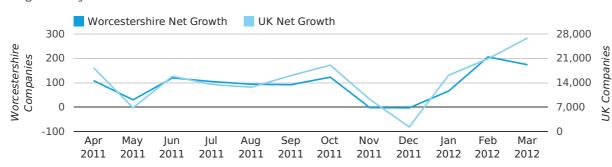
FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2012 - MAR 2012)	WORCESTERSHIRE	UK
2012	446	63,915
2011	260	25,405
% CHANGE	71.5%	151.6%
RECORD YEAR	2003 (531)	2007 (111,282)

net growth by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)

February 2012 saw a new record in net growth in Worcestershire when compared to any previous February.



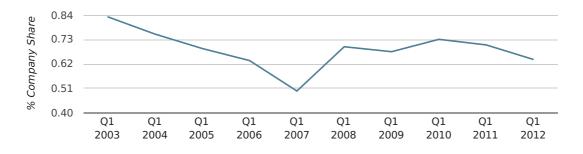
net growth by month

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
NET GROWTH IN 2012	66	206	174
NET GROWTH IN 2011	47	77	136
% CHANGE	40.4%	167.5%	27.9%
RECORD YEAR	2008 (144)	2012 (206)	2008 (229)

In the first quarter of 2012, Worcestershire formed 0.6% of all UK companies.

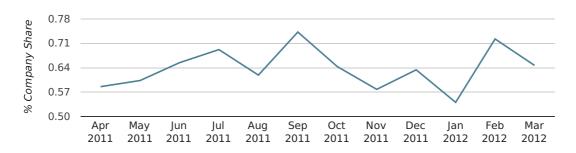
FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2012 - MAR 2012)	WORCESTERSHIRE
2012	0.6%
2011	0.7%
2010	0.7%
2009	0.7%
2008	0.7%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1965 (1.2%)

company share by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)

company share by month



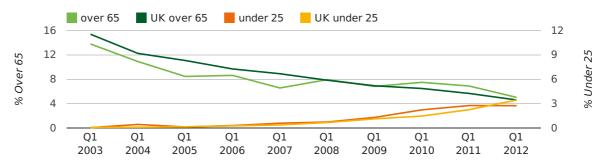
	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2012	0.5%	0.7%	0.6%
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011	0.8%	0.6%	0.7%
% CHANGE	-35.2%	17.6%	-5.9%
RECORD YEAR	1975 (1.7%)	1960 (1.6%)	1964 (1.4%)

The average age of a director in the first quarter of 2012 was 46.2.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 2.8% compared to the UK figure of 4.6%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 5.0% compared to the UK figure of 3.5%.

director age by quarter



Previous 12 months (Mar 2011-Mar 2012)

Excluding: LIMITED, LTD, &, UK, SERVICES, THE, (UK), AND, LTD., A, LLP, SOLUTIONS, COMPANY, OF.

WORD	PERCENTAGE	UK WORD	UK PERCENTAGE
MANAGEMENT	1.44%	CONSULTING	5.07%
CONSULTING	1.44%	MANAGEMENT	4.74%
CONSULTANCY	1.23%	CONSULTANCY	3.30%
PROPERTY	1.03%	PROPERTY	2.37%
ASSOCIATES	0.95%	TRADING	2.07%
ENGINEERING	0.77%	DESIGN	1.93%
DESIGN	0.74%	ENGINEERING	1.86%
J	0.69%	ASSOCIATES	1.84%
Μ	0.69%	CONSULTANTS	1.79%
FUSION	0.62%	BUSINESS	1.73%
TRAINING	0.62%	MEDIA	1.72%
S	0.62%	CONSTRUCTION	1.72%
CONSTRUCTION	0.59%	LONDON	1.66%
MARKETING	0.59%	J	1.54%
BUSINESS	0.59%	INVESTMENTS	1.51%
ENTERPRISES	0.54%	GLOBAL	1.50%
WORCESTER	0.54%	IT	1.40%
MEDIA	0.54%	CARE	1.34%
HOLDINGS	0.54%	PROPERTIES	1.31%
DEVELOPMENTS	0.54%	ELECTRICAL	1.27%
SCHOOL	0.54%	М	1.27%
TRADING	0.51%	BUILDING	1.24%
INVESTMENTS	0.51%	ENERGY	1.20%
IT	0.49%	S	1.20%
PROPERTIES	0.49%	ENTERPRISES	1.19%

Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

SIC CODE	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	UK COMPANIES
None Supplied	1,025	216,665
7487 - Other business activities	313	52,735
82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified	297	35,233
99999 - Dormant Company	169	25,084
70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management	148	19,704
9999 - Dormant Company	121	18,617
56290 - Other food services	102	1,656
7414 - Business & management consultancy	79	12,113
62020 - Information technology consultancy activities	76	14,303
74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified	74	9,892
7499 - Non-trading company	73	9,102
74990 - Non-trading company	63	9,729
62090 - Other information technology service activities	55	8,145
96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified	53	13,637
41100 - Development of building projects	48	4,984
9305 - Other service activities	48	8,818
7260 - Other computer related activities	44	7,154
4521 - General construction & civil engineering	39	5,169
68209 - Other letting and operating of own or leased real estate	38	4,427
86900 - Other human health activities	37	5,066